

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT

AI ~~The invention relates to a~~ A hybrid ARQ scheme ~~with~~ is used with incremental data packet combining. In an example embodiment, the hybrid ARQ scheme with incremental data packet combining employs three feedback signaling commands: ACK, NACK, and LOST. Using these three feedback commands, the hybrid ARQ scheme with incremental data packet combining ~~is~~ provides both robustness and good performance. ~~The invention~~ This scheme is particularly advantageous in communication systems with unreliable communication channels, e.g., a fading radio channel, where forward error correction (FEC) codes are used, and some of the code symbols ~~being~~ are more important than other code symbols. ~~The benefits of the invention are~~ Benefits include increased throughput and decreased delay of the packet data communication.